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House Resolution 1767

By: Representatives Drenner of the 86th, Thomas of the 100th, Murphy of the 120th, Manning of the 32nd, Buckner of the 130th, and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Creating the House Study Committee on Renewable Energy; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, stable, affordable energy is vital to the economy and security of the people of
- 3 the State of Georgia and of the United States of America; and
- 4 WHEREAS, the United States is heavily dependent on foreign oil supplies, and the
- 5 transportation sector depends on petroleum for nearly all of its needs, exacerbating price
- 6 volatility, adding to national trade imbalances, and decreasing national energy security; and
- 7 WHEREAS, the use of clean, renewable energy sources has many benefits, including
- 8 minimal environmental impact and dramatic air quality improvement, and constitutes a
- 9 preferred alternative to third-world energy development; and
- 10 WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the citizens of the State of Georgia to have access to
- 11 the most effective, efficient, and environmentally sound methods of alternative and
- 12 renewable energy production; and
- WHEREAS, the Renewables Portfolio Standard (RPS) is a flexible, market-driven policy
- 14 that can ensure that the public benefits of renewable energy, such as wind, biomass, and
- 15 non-CO₂ emitting sources, continue to be recognized as electricity markets become more
- 16 competitive and that a minium amount of renewable energy is included in the portfolio of
- 17 electricity resources serving a state, thereby putting the electricity industry on a path toward
- 18 increasing sustainability; and
- 19 WHEREAS, a national goal of 15-20 percent renewable based electricity by the year 2020
- 20 is thought by its proponents to offer the least-expensive and most market-friendly method
- 21 of nursing steady growth of America's renewable energy industry; and

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22 WHEREAS, a national RPS is said to have many benefits, but may also have possible

- 23 downsides in its implementation within this state; and
- 24 WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the citizens of the State of Georgia to
- 25 comprehensively study renewable energy including the possible implications and
- 26 ramifications of a national RPS.
- 27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
- 28 there is created the House Study Committee on Renewable Energy to be composed of six
- 29 members of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of
- 30 Representatives who shall designate one member as chairperson. The chairperson shall call
- 31 all meetings of the committee.
- 32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of renewable
- 33 energy to include an analysis of the national Renewables Portfolio Standard and its possible
- 34 implications and ramifications, both positive and negative, on the State of Georgia.
- 35 Furthermore, the committee shall recommend any action or legislation which the committee
- deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may conduct such meetings at such places
- and at such times as it may deem necessary or convenient to enable it to exercise fully and
- 38 effectively its powers, perform its duties, and accomplish the objectives and purposes of this
- 39 resolution. Any funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come
- 40 from the funds appropriated to the House of Representatives. In the event the committee
- 41 makes a report of its findings and recommendations, with suggestions for proposed
- 42 legislation, if any, such report shall be made on or before December 31, 2010. The committee
- shall stand abolished on December 31, 2010.